

LETTERS FROM BOURBON COUNTY SOLDIERS AND SAILORS

B. Clark Wilson, of Paris, who was wounded in air battle in France with a German airman, sends The News a badge from the cap of the birdman who shot him with the terse comment: "Here's the badge of the German birdman who shot me in the leg. He got me but he will never get another." The letter to The News, which was written from the U. S. General Hospital at West Baden Indiana, recently taken over by the Government, follows:

"U. S. General Hospital No. 35, West Baden, Indiana, Jan. 30, 1919. "I was glad to receive your message informing me that I am to get The News regularly. I wish to inform you that I have been receiving The News each week, through my father, who has been mailing it to me twice a week. Of course you did not know it, but do you think I would have been silent this long without getting The News? Certainly not. I'm glad that I am to be placed on the regular subscription list. Of course, The News has always been good, but since I have been back, it reads better than ever. Since I have been in bed so long it has been one of the few pleasures I have had to look forward to each week.

"My condition is somewhat better, and I am very much improved since I wrote last. I have undergone an operation and have had a new plaster of Paris cast put on. The cast I speak of begins at my neck and extends around my hips. I have had X-ray photographs taken lately and they show that my spine has about healed, and is doing finely. The wound in my leg is already healed, and it will

not be long before I will be on my pins again. The right leg that has been useless so long, due to the double fracture of the spine is getting some life in it now. I am very hopeful, but the doctors tell me I will always have a stiff leg, and that I will have to wear a cast or splint belt for several years.

"But life is very sweet yet, and I count myself fortunate that the daisies are not growing over me. I am enclosing to you the cap badge of the 'birdman' that put the hole in my right leg. Shortly after he thought he had gotten me I really surprised him—and did I get him? I say I did, and took his cap badge for a little remembrance of his kindness. The badge or button tells the company and division he belonged to. Let my young friend, Barnett Winters, have a look at this badge and tell him that I am thinking of having a watch chain made of it if possible. The initials on the badge are 'P. J. L.' which indicates that my opponent was a member of one of the crack German flying corps. But if he is flying now, it is in a different country from either Germany or France, as he has gone over the long journey, and will never again take a shot at a good American.

"Well, hoping to receive The News regularly, and with my warmest regards to all the force, whom I count as being my best friends in Paris, I remain,

"Very Sincerely,
"B. CLARK WILSON
"B. Clark Wilson,
"U. S. General Hospital, No. 35,
"West Baden, Indiana."

TOWN GROWTH BASED ON RURAL PROSPERITY.

The ambition of every town made up of live people is to grow and develop and prosper. Growth is the basic law of nature. When growth ceases, decay sets in.

We are forced to admit that there are conditions under which a town may be and is in a measure independent of the surrounding country, as to whether or not that territory is prosperous. But these instances are rare and not by any means the rule.

The United States is pre-eminently an agricultural nation. To-day she is literally undertaking to feed the world. To accomplish this gigantic task every resource must be utilized and developed to the uttermost. The soil must be made to yield as it has never before yielded, and the millions of acres of our domain that have heretofore lain fallow must be brought under cultivation.

And this brings us to the subject of this article.

The great majority of American towns are DIRECTLY DEPENDENT

FOR THEIR GROWTH AND PROSPERITY ON THE SURROUNDING COUNTRY. They advance or retard in exact proportion as the surrounding territory develops or deteriorates.

The town, then, that has an ambition to advance, to build up, spread out and prosper, should, first of all, devote its energies to the fullest possible development of the community from which it draws sustenance. This not merely from a standpoint of benevolence or philanthropy, but as a measure of pure self-interest.

To demonstrate the truth of this assertion, one has but to observe the number of towns in this country that are really overgrown—developed out of all proportion to the surrounding country. The growth has been a mushroom growth, with no enduring foundation, and as soon as the general prosperity of the country has a slight decline, these are the first towns to suffer. This was particularly noticeable in the old boom days of the '80's and '90's when many towns sprang up without any other excuse than the ambition of some syndicate to unload a piece of property on the public. The wrecks of many such towns still mar the landscape in all parts of our country.

The town that would insure its growth based on a solid foundation, should make the development of the surrounding territory its first consideration. The establishment of a saw-mill, opening of a rock quarry, or a limekiln, the development of any and every industry of the rural districts is of as vital interest to the dwellers in the town as to the parties directly concerned therein. The organization of farmers' clubs, girls' canning clubs boys' pig clubs and oom club—all these are vitally affects the town people as the country folks, because they are factors in the general prosperity from which the town must draw its enduring strength. A poor road leading from any community to the town is as much a matter of concern to the town as to the community affected. The county fair, while of incalculable benefit to the farming interests, is equally beneficial to the town.

And thus it goes through the entire list of community interests. The enduring prosperity of the town dwellers bears an exact ratio to that of the rural population. Their interests are inextricably interwoven. It is, however, far easier for the farmer to dispense with the backing of the town people than for the latter to ignore his support.

We have written thus plainly with the hope that we might perhaps cause some to view the national problems in a national light. This is an era of development. The world is calling for the best that America give it. Thousands of our men are flocking to the great manufacturing centers. Not only must war material be furnished, but all the arts of peace must be supplied.

But the farms are pre-eminently the great food storehouse of the land. The farmer must feed us if we are fed, and without his product all other branches of industry become impotent. His calling is, has always been, and always will be, the bed-rock foundation of our national life. Upon the farm must we build our prosperity, and by the prosperity of the farm must we stand or fall.

To the millions of dwellers in the cities and towns we wish we could get this message: "Give your first and best efforts to building a solid, enduring rural prosperity, developing its every interest to the utmost, and all the adverse powers of earth can not prevent your sharing as an equal partner in that prosperity."

SOCIAL AND PERSONAL.

Comings and Goings of Our People Here, There and Elsewhere.

—Mrs. Whittington Mann is visiting friends in Nashville, Tenn.

—Mr. H. Clay Weathers, of Covington, is a guest of relatives at Clintonville.

—Mrs. J. H. Boone, of Frankfort, is visiting her daughter, Mrs. W. R. Stipp, near Paris.

—Mrs. John Scott, guest of Mrs. Florence Wilson, in this city, has returned to her home in Mt. Sterling.

—Mr. and Mrs. Louis Ballou have returned to their home in Versailles after a visit to Paris relatives and friends.

—Mr. Roy Harris has returned to his home at Tulsa, Oklahoma, after a visit to friends and relatives in this city and county.

—Miss Sally Talbott has returned to her home in Versailles after a visit to friends and relatives in Paris and the county.

—Miss Margaret Moberly has returned to her home in Richmond after a visit to her sister, Mrs. E. C. Richardson, in Paris.

—Mr. Will Boardman, of North Middletown, has gone to Cincinnati, where he has accepted a position in the Government service.

—Mrs. Ed. C. Keller, formerly of Paris, now residing in Louisville, was a recent guest of Mrs. Chas. Green and Mrs. O'Neill, in Richmond.

—Mrs. Strother D. Mitchell has returned to her home in Allen, Kansas, after a visit to her parents, Dr. and Mrs. R. D. Weaver, in North Middletown.

—Mr. and Mrs. Walter Gibson have returned to their home in Cumberland Gap, Tenn., after a visit to Mr. and Mrs. R. L. Stipp, near Clintonville.

—Mr. H. L. Mulfinger, who recently underwent an operation at the Massie Memorial Hospital, is improving, and will soon be able to return to his home.

(Other Personals on Page 5)

MODERN HEALTH CRUSADE BY NATIONAL TUBERCULOSIS ASSOCIATION.

Crusaders, knights, pages, squires, tournaments—this form of mediaeval chivalry has revived in the Modern Health Crusade which is an organized movement of the National Tuberculosis Association. Junior Red Cross members will start out on this crusade in February.

Through the schools, the American Red Cross with the National Tuberculosis Association, is conducting a national, State and local campaign for the improvement of personal health and community sanitation. The Council of National Defense and the United States Public Health Service are co-operating in the movement.

"Health Chores" faithfully performed for two weeks entitle any school child to enter the ranks of the Modern Health Crusades as a page. To be a squire, and wear a squire's badge, three weeks of health chores must be added to the two weeks already performed. And fifteen weeks (incidentally sufficient practice to acquire good habits thoroughly) bring the title of knight banneret and a gold pin.

Folders, with a space to check each chore each day keep the record at home. A Roll of Health Knighthood hangs in the school-room, where the names of the candidates are enrolled and their rank indicated by stars as they earn their titles.

The trophies for the victors in the National Tournament are pennants presented jointly by the National Tuberculosis Association and the American Red Cross.

Women Soldiers in China.
China had women soldiers long before they were known in Russia. During the Tae Ping rebellion, 1850, women as well as men served in the ranks. In Nanking, in 1853, an army of 500,000 women was recruited. They were divided into brigades of 13,000 each and were commanded by women officers.

It isn't polite to tell a whole country to dry up, but that's the way the Phobionists have talked to Uncle Sam.

Fugazzi School of Business Reopened Monday, January 27th

Under the principalship of Mrs. L. V. Jones, the Fugazzi School of Business reopened Monday, January 27. Mrs. Jones was Miss Fugazzi's Assistant Principal and will carry on the school along the same lines and high ideals that were laid down by the founder.

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THINGS TO WORRY ABOUT.

The Reed "bone dry" law is constitutional says the Supreme Court, and it is unlawful for one to take intoxicating liquors from another state into dry territory, even for personal use. You may, however, buy liquor in wet territory in your own state and take it into dry territory in that state, for your personal use, for the present. It will soon be so that you cannot buy it or transport it anywhere.

The clock tinker naturally wants his customers to believe that "There is a good time coming."

The side door of a saloon is what might be called an open secret.

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